

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 703

By Henry

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Earl H. Sadler, Sr., of Nashville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Earl H. Sadler, Sr., of Nashville; and

WHEREAS, Earl Sadler was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a highly successful business entrepreneur and philanthropist who prospered in real estate, auto dealerships, and trucking, Earl H. Sadler, Sr., was the President of Sadler Brothers Trucking and Leasing Company and the founder and President of College Volkswagen in Murfreesboro; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sadler's favorite business endeavor was undoubtedly his racing team. While on vacation in Florida, Earl Sadler witnessed his first auto race and was mesmerized by the spectacle; at that moment, he decided he had to be a part of the sport some day, and, in 1983, in Spartanburg, South Carolina, he started his first racing team; and

WHEREAS, eventually relocating the team to the Maury County, Tennessee racing shop of racing legend Coo Coo Marlin, then to Bristol, then to its final location on Murfreesboro Road in 1987, Mr. Sadler quickly established himself as an owner who followed his heart, giving many novice young drivers their start; and

WHEREAS, Earl Sadler took great pride in seeing more than twenty of the young men he nurtured advance to higher levels of racing, including seven who made it to NASCAR's top Cup Series – Davey Allison, Michael Waltrip, Jeremy Mayfield, Jeff Green, Bobby Hamilton Sr., Bobby Hamilton Jr., and two-time Daytona 500 winner Sterling Marlin; and

WHEREAS, a member of this Nation's "greatest generation," Earl Sadler proudly served his country during World War II as a member of the armed forces, seeing duty with the Army Air Corps, the predecessor of the U.S. Air Force; and

WHEREAS, a charter member of Nashville City Club, Mr. Sadler was also active in numerous charitable, civic, and professional organizations, including the Star Route Carriers Association, the Moose Lodge, the Sertoma Club, and the Lifetime Elks of Franklin, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a kind and gracious gentleman who would give a person in need the shirt off his back, Mr. Sadler was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always remained true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Vera Goodwin Sadler, and was the father of Chester (Check) Sadler and the late Earl Harlin Sadler, Jr.; the grandfather of Michelle S. Mobley, Earl Harlin Sadler III, Chris Sadler, Ashleigh S. Sharp, Tara S. Janecki, and Cara Sadler; and great-grandfather of Taylor Mobley, Brennon Mobley, Coleman Sadler, Caroline Sadler, Clay Sadler, Nathan Sadler, Carson Sharp, and Alexann Sharp; and

WHEREAS, Earl Sadler, Sr., leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Earl H. Sadler, Sr., reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Sadler.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.